and investment, both domestic and foreign, as also for promoting better integration of the North-East and its people with the rest of the country. It was in this context that a decision was taken some time ago to withdraw the requirement of Restricted Area Permit from Tripura and some other States in the North-East. The introduction of 'Inner Line Permit' in Tripura will not be in conformity with the existing policy.

Inner Line Limit

4996. SHRI P. NAMGYAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations had been made by the people of Ladakh to extend the present inner line limit,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reservation Ouota in Uttranchal Region

4997. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 708, on November 30, 1995 and state:

(a) whether the matter has since been considered by the Government;

(b) if so, the time by which the relevant notification is likely to be issued; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Since it has been decided to create a separate State of Uttarakhand, the policy of reservation could be decided by the new Government of that State according to the legal provisions pertaining to reservation.

Railway Line between Kuttur-Harihara

4998. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total cost estimated for the project of laying down new railway line between Kuttur-Harihara of the Southern Railway indicating the total distance of the line and the proposed period of completion of the project;

(b) whether the project was sanctioned during 1995-96 but work has not started even during 1996-97; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Kottur-Harihar line is 65 kms long and its cost is Rs. 65.94 crores.

(b) and (c) The project was sanctioned in 95-96. The final location survey and preparation of land acquisition papers has been taken up. Actual construction work would be started once the land becomes available.

Direct Train Link Between Hyderabad and Bangalore

4999. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rail route between Bangalore and Hyderabad is circutous and takes more time than the buses;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to connect these two important cities by the direct train link; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The work of guage conversion of Hyderabad (Secunderabad)-Dronachellam-Guntakal section is already in progress and will be completed by December, 1997 which will create a direct shorter route between Hyderabad and Bangalore.

Freedom Fighter Pension

5000. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons receiving Central Feedom Fighters Pension for participating in the Mahe Liberation Movement, Goa Liberation struggle and Rin Mutiny;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of applications lying pending with the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) No separate movement-wise record about number of persons who have been sanctioned pension on the basis of paticipation and suffering in these movements is kept.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As on 31.8.1996, 25 fresh applications received recently from the persons belonging to various movements/mutinies etc., were pending for consideration and disposal.